

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 SY-10 SS-20 FBIE-00 USPS-02 L-03

DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /086 W

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R 041210Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5182

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS OEXC BC

SUBJ: REQUEST BY GOB FOR POLICE OFFICER WITH BALLISTICS
AND DEMOLITION EXPERIENCE

DEPT FOR AF/S

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF DIPLOMATIC NOTE RECEIVED FROM
GOB OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT ON FEBRUARY 25, 1974.
BEGIN TEXT:

THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA AND HAS THE HONOUR TO ENLIST THE
ASSISTANCE OF THE EMBASSY IN OBTAINING A POLICE OFFICER
WITH CERTAIN SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS. SINCE THE MURDER
OF MR. ONKGOPOTSE ABRAM TIRO, THE POLICE HAVE BEEN
INUNDATED BY REQUESTS TO EXAMINE A NUMBER OF PACKAGES
SUSPECTED TO BE 'PARCEL BOMBS'. THERE IS ONE OFFICER IN
THE POLICE FORCE WHO HAS BOTH THE QUALIFICATIONS AND
ALSO THE EXPERIENCE TO CARRY OUT THIS EXAMINATION. THIS
OFFICER WHO WAS RECRUITED FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM IS DUE
TO LEAVE BOTSWANA ON COMPLETION OF HIS TOUR OF SERVICE.
THE DEPARTURE OF THIS OFFICER WILL NOT ONLY DEPRIVE
BOTSWANA OF HIS EXPERTISE, BUT WILL ALSO LEAVE BOTSWANA
WITHOUT ANYBODY TO INSTRUCT THE LOCAL POLICE OFFICERS
ON THIS IMPORTANT FIELD.

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IN VIEW OF THE FACTS MENTIONED ABOVE THE BOTSWANA GOVERNMENT HAS THE HONOUR TO REQUEST THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO USE ITS GOOD OFFICES TO REQUEST THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO RECRUIT AN OFFICER OF THESE SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR SERVICES IN BOTSWANA. THE PERSON REQUESTED SHOULD HAVE AS FAR AS IT IS POSSIBLE THE FOLLOWING KNOWLEDGE:

- (A) THE IDENTIFICATION OF FIREARMS AND ANCILLARY SUBJECTS;
- (B) GENERAL BALLISTICS WORK;
- (C) GENERAL EXPLOSIVES WORK;
- (D) BOMB DISPOSAL;
- (E) SABOTAGE;
- (F) THE IDENTIFICATION OF BOMB FRAGMENTS, DETONATOR FUSES, ETC. (IT IS APPRECIATED THAT IN MANY COUNTRIES THE LATTER CATEGORY IS NOT A POLICE COMMITMENT BUT IS UNDERTAKEN BY GOVERNMENT CHEMISTS AND FORENSIC SCIENCE LABORATORIES.)

IT MAY NOT BE THAT EASY TO OBTAIN THE SERVICES OF SOMEBODY WHO COULD COVER THE SUBJECTS LISTED ABOVE, PARTICULARLY THE FORENSIC-LEGAL SIDE, BUT AS THE PRESSING NEED IS IN BOMB DISPOSAL IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF CONSIDERATION COULD BE GIVEN TO RECRUITING A BOMB DISPOSAL EXPERT TO RUN COURSES IN BOTSWANA. THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE - MR. S. A. HIRSCHFELD IS DUE TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES WITH EFFECT FROM THE 14TH MARCH, 1974. IF IT COULD BE ARRANGED MR. HIRSCHFELD COULD, WHILE IN THE STATES, EXPLAIN THIS REQUEST TO WHOEVER IT WAS DEEMED SUITABLE. THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT WISHES FURTHER TO ENQUIRE WHETHER IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT IF THEY AGREE TO THIS REQUEST, TO HAVE SUCH AN OFFICER SECONDED TO BOTSWANA ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BASIS.

THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO KNOW WHAT MATERIALS, TEACHING AIDS, EQUIPMENT, ETC., HE WOULD NEED TO ASSEMBLE SHOULD SUCH AN OFFICER COME TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BOTSWANA. THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA AVAILS ITSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THE ASSURANCE OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. END TEXT.

2. SUGGEST AF/S COORDINATE REPLY TO THIS REQUEST WITH AID AND DISCUSS WITH HIRSCHFELD AFTER HIS ARRIVAL. UNDERSTAND IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE SEND A BOTSWANA POLICE

OFFICER FOR TRAINING IN U.S. IN THESE SUBJECT AREAS.
COPY OF GOB DIP NOTE NO. 3 OF 2/20/74 BEING POUCHED TO
SIMPSON ON MARCH 5.
DUNCAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BOMBING, EXPLOSIVES, MURDER, SMALL ARMS, SABOTAGE, DEATHS, POLICE INVESTIGATIONS, POLICE FORCES
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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